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NSC BRIEFING

9 March 1955

CHINESE OFFSHORE ISLANDS

I. Lull in islands continues. ChiComs seem in no hurry move against Matsus, Quemoy.

A. ChiNats almost finished moving 84th Div to Matsus, ChiComs have not interfered.

B. Major naval and air forces still not in area. Believe this necessary before Peiping will attack.

II. ChiComs preparations continue.

A. 33-ship convoy (about 10 landing craft) may have brought troops from Chekiang to Fukien on 5 or 6 Mar. Ships not there now. May now be more Fukien troops than currently estimated (125,000).

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- B. ChiCom naval activity near Quemoy and Matsus still small scale but increasing.
- C. Construction on positions on mainland opposite both island groups continues.